

October 2018



Crestviews

**Newsletter of the
Crestview Community Church, PCUSA
in Callery, PA**

Loving God ♦ Following Jesus ♦ Serving All

Partnership Visit Hits a Snag

We received word Tuesday that 12 of the 22 anticipated missionary visitors from Malawi have not yet been granted permission to enter the United States. This is a deeply saddening piece of news, as Blessings Sigoti is one of those who will not be able to travel on October 10. Blessings is a member of the Chiphoola Church, Crestview's sister church in Malawi.



The hope is that most of this group will receive approval and be able to come for an abbreviated visit beginning on October 17. Our mission committee will be meeting to adjust the activities for his visit. The Fall Foliage Cruise and Soup Cook Off will happen as scheduled.

Please keep this process covered with your prayers. A tremendous thank you to all who have given generously to make this partnership visit possible!

Fall Soup Cook Off

Sunday, October 21, noon

Bring your best pot of soup and try for the prize or just your taste buds and judge!! Join us for worship, then lunch in the fellowship hall. It's free—no admission charge. If casting a vote, you must try all the soups. After the winner is announced, help yourself to the soups of your choosing. If bringing soup isn't your thing, desserts are always welcome. Everyone, bring your appetite.

Blessings Sigoti's Schedule

*Please call the office or speak with
Claudia Ripper, Gregg Hartung, or Pastor Bob
if you are interested in small group activities.*

Friday, Oct. 12

First hosting period begins—staying with Pastor Bob and ChrisAnn Goossen

Saturday, Oct. 13

Zelienow Country Fall Festival*

Sunday, Oct. 14

World Communion Worship with Blessings speaking to Collaborative Youth Group, 7-8:30 p.m. at Callery

Tuesday, Oct. 16

Visit New Brighton, Valley Camp and Presbytery offices; E-C Home Group (6-8) supper—6 p.m. at Wanda Bahnsen's*

Wednesday, Oct. 17

Breakfast or lunch with Evangelical Area Presbyterian Pastors; E-C Home Group Cupboard; E-C Senior Center Bible Study*

Thursday, Oct. 18–Friday, Oct. 19

Retreat with Malawi Group at Antioch Village, near Ligonier—upon return, staying with Gregg & Tina Hartung

Saturday, Oct. 20

Moraine State Park Fall Foliage Outing*, 11 a.m. (7 tickets available)

Sunday, Oct. 21

Worship†; Soup Cook Off†; Final dinner in Pgh.

Monday, Oct. 22

Depart for Washington DC, overnight there before flying home.

*– Small Group †– Congregation

Fall Foliage Outing

Saturday, October 20, 11 a.m.

Take a boat ride around Lake Arthur to enjoy the glory of God’s world. Spaces are limited, so contact the office, Pastor Bob or Claudia Ripper if you would like to join a Crestview group.

Fall Session of Kids’ Club and Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 16, 11 a.m.

After initial conversations with families and leaders, plans are underway for the children of Crestview Kids’s Club to present a Christmas Pageant—the Christmas story with costumes, acting and singing. Practices will begin in November and continue into December with possibly a Saturday morning dress rehearsal on the 15th.

This activity will take the place of our usual fall session format of Kids’ Club which will resume in January with the winter session

We are opening the fall session to all children and friends, even those who have not or cannot attend our regular Wednesday Kids’ Club. There’s always more room available around the manger! Please help us share the invitation. Contact ChrisAnn Goossen, 724-452-5353, if you have questions. Stayed tuned for more information in the near future.

Choir Resumes

Rehearsals have resumed on Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. The choir hopes to sing for Blessings’ visit when we celebrate World Communion. If you would like to sing for that Sunday or on a regular basis, contact Jeannie Allen at 724-910-5132.

From the Pastor’s Desk

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.—Psalm 19:1

Tuesday was a long sort of day: an early start, a mid-morning surprise of the kind we don’t really want to come our way; a late lunch with ChrisAnn before shuffling off to New Wilmington for our joint Beaver-Butler and Shenango Presbytery meeting. And, as Presbytery meetings go it was smooth, but long and a touch emotionally draining. Perhaps something to do with receiving a phone call with unexpected bad news. When we got home I stepped out of the car and looked up, just past the edge of the trees and away from the parting clouds of the rainy day glowed a full moon. Like throwing a window open, the concerns of the day evaporated into the mist of the evening.

We are heading into October and the promise of God’s paintbrush splashing color all across the hills and valleys of our beautiful corner of the world. It is always an exciting time for exploring those lesser used routes on the way to work or taking a late afternoon stroll through the neighborhood. There is easily an extra bounce in our step, a skip of excitement in our spirits. God is refreshing us, reminding us, blessing us.

On Friday, September 21, I attended a workshop with Tod Bolsinger, author of *Canoeing the Mountains*. He talked about how Lewis and Clark went searching for a water route across America. How they worked their way up the Missouri and to the uppermost reaches of a stream at the headwaters. Then, lifting their heads, they hiked to the top of the ridge fully expecting to find a stream running down the opposite side leading all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Instead they found three hundred miles of mountain ridges. They could have turned back in dejection but they re-oriented their expedition. They went on and instead of discovering a water route they discovered a whole continent.

As we weave our way through October, let’s keep in mind that God may have a surprise or two for us, just around the corner, just over the ridge. It may be a beautiful tree, a new life opportunity or a whole new way to think about our present situation. It more than likely will be something much smaller, a brilliant leaf, a tweak to a recipe, a hug where we expected a snub. God, in God’s amazing goodness, blesses us in the little and in the larger moments of life. God painting our world with beauty—beauty that takes our breath away.

Faithfully yours,



Pastor Bob

August Financial Report

	Income	YTD	Expenses	YTD
General Fund:	4,835.00	42,044.85	6,111.38	46,008.94
Sec. Acct.:	640.00	7,100.47	2,187.00	8,372.33
Transfer	5,155.66	5,155.66		
Totals	5,475.00	54,300.98	8,298.38	54,381.27

We made the transfer from our investment account in August to help with cash flow challenges. —The Session

Can You See the End?

Project Update

We believe that the light at the end of the tunnel is beginning to flicker. The railing is all installed on our ramp and front porch and we have a plan for the porch roof! Inside the lights are hung, wall paint is going on, and the wainscoting and carpet will soon be installed!

Thank you to Gary Schwartz and Sandy Marburger who have been working regularly and would welcome your help, especially with painting all the outside railing. Thank you to Wayne Roccia, Denny Hasenflu, Clark Trauterman, and Steve & Tammy Kozar for doing the prep work on the railing.

One larger job will be laying concrete for the parking and drop off areas by the ramp. We await PennDOT clarification on the location of the official edge of the roadway.

We appreciate your help, patience and your prayers. Please contact Gary at 724-538-4600 if you'd like to come over and help with painting or final touches.

Presbytery Meeting Note

At our September joint meeting of Beaver-Butler and Shenango Presbyteries, we spent some time in worship and work contemplating what it would be like to reshape our Presbyteries in the upcoming times. We recognize that we are very much alike in size, locale, history and leadership needs. Our executive recently retired and theirs has accepted a new call. Each Presbytery has strengths and growing edges that might compliment the other. We are in a time of leadership transition and organizational discernment. How we go forward may dramatically impact the hope we have to better serve the congregations and by extension our communities. Please keep this process in your prayers.

In The Mailbox

Brokenness Restored: A Retreat for Women

Friday-Sunday, October 26-28

Pine Valley Camp and Chapel Valley Estates

Led by Susan Reichert and Sandy Joseph, this intimate event will provide opportunity for individuals to process and pray about ways in which they have been impacted by brokenness, how God is at work in the midst of pain and the suffering and what purpose God may have. Registration deadline is October 23.

To learn more, go to recognizeandremember.com/retreat

Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation

Saturday, October 6, 8:30-4

Slippery Rock Presbyterian Church, Ellwood City

A workshop for faith community leaders. Register online at: slipperyrockchurch.org

Youth Group

Our collaborative youth group with Plains and Old Union has begun. On October 14 we will meet at 7 p.m. at Plains Church for Bible study and group building. We'll also plan for service and fellowship activities we'd like to participate in during the year.

Celebrations

October Birthdays

- 18 Tina Hartung
- 27 Jim Dunbar
- 29 Justine Davison

October Anniversaries

- 4 Gary & Sharon Schwartz
- 24 Gregg & Tina Hartung
- 28 Jason & Jenna Falkner

If you would like to have a name added to/or removed from the Celebrations Column, please contact the office.

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Crestviews is published monthly except January and July. Please have submissions to the church office by the 20th of the prior month. If you wish to receive our newsletter, send us a note with your email or physical address.

    **OCTOBER CALENDAR**    

We worship each Sunday at 11 a.m.

Wednesday, October 3

Senior Center Bible Study,
10:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 4

Spiritual Formation & Worship
& Arts, 6 p.m.
Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, October 7

Mission, Fun & Fellowship,
12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9

I & S & Property Committee,
7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 10

Evans City Ministerium,
8:30 a.m.
Senior Center Bible Study,
10:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 11

Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, October 14

World Communion Worship,
11 a.m.—TBD
Youth Group @ Plains, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 17

Blessings arrives—TBD
Senior Center Bible Study,
10:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 18

Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, October 20

Lake Arthur Fall Foliage
Outing, 11 a.m.

Sunday, October 21

Soup Cook Off, noon

Monday, October 22,

Blessings departs—TBD

Wednesday, October 24

Senior Center Bible Study,
10:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 25

Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, October 29

Session, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 31

Happy Halloween

Senior Center Bible Study,
10:30 a.m.

Saturday, November 3

***Daylight savings time ends,
fall back***

Sunday, November 4

All Saints' Sunday worship,
11 a.m.